

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2010

Stacy's Furniture & Accessories

Community Room, 3rd Floor

1900 South Main, Grapevine

Social 9:30 A.M.

Meeting and Program 10:00 A.M.

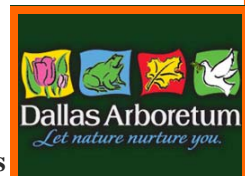
We thank our members for continuing to carpool and park in the outer slots to allow Stacy's customers to park near the store entrance.

THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTESSES: Debbie Monahan (Chair),
Ramona Hall, Sue Drake, Maureen Bittick, Doris Hill, Susan Boelens,
Jimmie Nell Cook, Paula Wilson

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Woman's Garden at the Dallas Arboretum

Kathleen Cunningham, Director of the Dallas Arboretum's Speakers



Kathleen Cunningham will present a photographic tour of the individual gardens within the **Woman's Garden**. The gardens display an outstanding collection of outdoor sculptures. Each garden showcases the unique qualities of women. She will also discuss the upcoming Children's Garden.

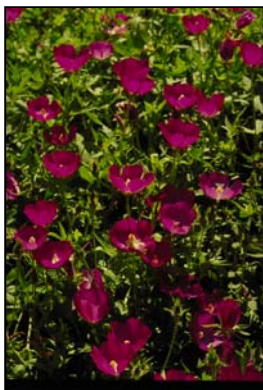
New memberships to the Dallas Arboretum, including individual and family memberships, will be available at a 10% discount. Checks, cash and credit cards will be accepted for these memberships.

The benefits of Dallas Arboretum membership include: Free admissions for the year, free parking for the year, express entry - no waiting in lines during **Blooms**, 10% discount at the Gift shop and at area garden stores (Calloways for one), 10% discount on classes and workshops, and a free subscription to the Dallas Arboretum newsletter.

Storybook Pumpkin Village and *Harvest Tea*, Sept. 18 - Nov. 14 and *The Magic of Santa* - an 18,000 sq ft display of Santas in the DeGolyer Home are some of the upcoming events at the Dallas Arboretum.

OCTOBER 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Finally! Mother Nature has taken pity on us and granted us some beautiful, sunny, not steaming hot days. This gives us a golden opportunity to get outside and do some serious work in those areas that have been avoided while we had to battle high temperatures and mosquitoes. This is the time to divide those perennials. You can share the bounty by potting them up for the plant sale and keeping them over the winter until April. You can also gift some of your plants to friends. It's always fun to look in the garden and be reminded of good friends by the plants they have passed on to you.

I met lots of new friends at our September General Meeting. I hope you made some new acquaintances, too. Remember, the best way to take advantage of Grapevine Garden Club opportunities is to attend the meetings, tours, and special events. You will gain gardening knowledge as well as having a great time with friends.

An exciting new opportunity this month - to help plant the fall color in our very own Grapevine Botanical Gardens on October 19. One of our projects this year is "Plant It Pink," a National Garden Club initiative to plant gardens of pink flowers in honor and memory of breast cancer victims. We will be planting a wall garden with pink flowers in the shape of the cancer awareness pink ribbon. A wall garden is a vertical garden accessible to all gardeners especially those with limited physical ability. Lisa Grove, the GBG horticulturalist, will also be needing our help to transform the Botanical Gardens to its fall palate of color beds. Please come to the Botanical Gardens at 8:00 A.M. (or as soon as you can) on October 19 to lend a hand. If you can't get on your knees and plant, we can find lots of other ways you can help.

Other opportunities this month include our booth in Grapevine's annual "Butterfly Flutterby" celebration on October 16. Drop by the booth to help teach about butterfly migration or just enjoy the festival. October 23-24 is the Ft. Worth Botanic Garden Fall Festival in the Japanese Garden. Take advantage of the fall weather and discover the beauty of this garden. Our general meeting will be October 26, and we will be learning about the Women's Garden at the Dallas Arboretum. You can buy a discounted membership to the Dallas Arboretum at the meeting, which will also give you free admission to many gardens across the country including the Ft. Worth Botanic Japanese Garden. Following the general meeting, we will be touring the gardens of three of our members.

I'm looking forward to seeing you this month!

- **Sarah Erickson**, President

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LET'S CELEBRATE

New Members Who Joined in September

Amy Alexander
Carmen Drew
Robin Fleury
Garth Giles
Marlene Hoffman
Ebie and Mike Nametz
Kathryn Orler
Dick and Karen Pafford
Marianne Tuggle



Members With Birthdays in October

Nancy Baku	Dick Pafford
Joan Bledsoe	Marge Salame
Nancy Braden	Marcia Scott
Doug Evans	Nancy Searle
Lisa Grove	Chuck Voelker
Wayne Milner	Barbara Williams
Jesse Misch	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



October Date	Event	Location
15	GGC Plant Sale preparation dig	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
16	Butterfly Flutterby	Grapevine
17 - 19	Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. Fall Convention	Tyler
19	GBG work day	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
20	Fort Worth Garden Club Council Meeting	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
23 - 24	Fall Festival in the Japanese Garden	FWBG
24	Fort Worth Orchid Society Show and Sale	FWBG (?)
26	Grapevine Garden Club General Meeting	Grapevine - Stacy's Furniture
26 - 28	Flower Show School III	Houston

GARDENS ON VIEW: Grapevine, Colleyville, North Richland Hills

Tuesday, October 26, following the GGC General Meeting

Gardens of Dave Buhr, Joyce Quam, and Mona Levingston

Directions will be sent out via email a few days before the general meeting. Some printed copies will also be available at the meeting. Please RSVP to Marge Carpenter (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-9) if you plan to attend, so she can provide the garden hosts with an estimate of expected guests.



Dave came to Grapevine 10 years ago from Minnesota. He has been involved in gardening since being a member of FFA in school, Arlington's Mens Club and our own GGC.

Joyce also came to us from Minnesota and has been in Colleyville 12 years. She refers to half of her acre as Cottage Gardens. The other half is natural with post oaks, Black jack and American Beauty berries.

Mona came to Texas 40 some years ago from Louisiana. She likes playing in the dirt and considers her style to be Country Gardens.

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GARDENERS ON THE GO

There are three openings for the overnight trip to the Hill Country (Austin and Johnson City) on November 9 and 10. The tour is limited to 32. Contact Joetta King (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-26) if you are interested in attending. If you missed the fall tours, there will be more next spring. As members have indicated, we have fun and learn a lot!



Blessed with perfect fall weather, the tour at Tierra Verde Golf Club via golf carts and lunch at the Ventana Grill was a good beginning for the optional shopping at Redenta's Nursery and the Decorator's Warehouse. I asked members to share their impressions of the tour and if they learned anything new. Here are a few responses:

Barbara and Jim Thompson - We were particularly impressed by Mark Claburn's knowledge of wildlife management and golf course lore. I grew up in a golfing family and never knew that the origin of sand traps was a group of sheep backing into a berm to escape the blustery winds coming off the sea. Also we were fascinated by the controls for the watering system. It was amazing to see him turn on a sprinkler head by calling it on his cell phone. Jim said it gives new meaning to calling a "head." It was also interesting that the wild animals could traverse the entire length of the course and never cross a fairway or green.

Peggy Harris - I am not a golfer so this was foreign territory for me. I was glad to find that keeping a golf course "naturally" is actually cheaper than the traditional method. Mark's solution to the armadillos was unique and so easy! Dump out a sack of compost and let the worms present themselves for the dining delight of the armadillo! Everyone is happy, except maybe the worms. Redenta's is always a nice nursery to visit. There was a good selection and everyone found a plant or two that had to come home with us! I am looking forward to the next tour.

Elayne Vick - Mark Claburn included a lot of bird information in his tour narration, since so many are found at the course. He had some interesting facts about the nuisance and non-native birds that drive us crazy, the starlings and grackles. He said it's no accident that the starlings continue to plague us. European starlings got to North America in 1890 by the misguided notion of Eugene Schieffelin, who supposedly wanted to bring birds mentioned in Shakespeare's plays to the United States. He released about 60 birds in New York City's Central Park, and they spread rapidly across the continent by the mid-20th century. Great-tailed grackles are actually birds of South and Central America, Mexico, and extreme South Texas that have rapidly expanded their range northward since the 1960s. As a result, today we have millions of these nasty birds, with no way to get rid of them. Final note: I loved driving the golf cart. Makes one want to take up golf.

(Continued)

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GARDENERS ON THE GO, cont.

Shannon Bordelon and Karen Turner - The golf course was amazing! I never realized how much technology was involved in managing the course. The lunch was wonderful and weather incredible. I love Redenta's. What a beautiful nursery. It was so nice to see plants growing under the trees and to be able to get so many different native plants. We also went to Decorator's Warehouse and the Garden Tea Room for dessert. What an amazing place for holiday items and accessories. We had such a great time.

Joan Kowalski - Spinosad, an organic insecticide under the trademark name of Conserve is used to control fire ants at the course. After researching this I am not sure if it is available to the normal gardener as it was mentioned as a use for golf courses and other large areas. Maybe it's too new or too costly? Driving the golf carts was so much fun!

Lynn Kugler - I learned that grass greens up after a good rain because the salts in the soil are washed out by the rain. Never knew that.

Kathy Clark - The trip was fantastic! I was unaware that synthetic fertilizers contained an abundance of salt and that the organic fertilizer was less expensive to apply due to the amount of synthetic needed compared to the amount of organic fertilizer. Our tour guide was extremely knowledgeable.

Garth Giles - Mark did an outstanding job speaking and telling us things about how golf courses are maintained. Not being a golfer, I learned about the cutting of the greens and fairways...did not know a traditional mower was not used to cut the course. I thoroughly enjoyed Redenta's Nursery.

Pam Braak - Bermuda seed is sterile (like the mule, it has the equipment but can't do the job) Mesquite seed was carried here by the cattle drives from West Texas.

Patty Hofer - This was a wonderful tour to Tierra Verde. Members who didn't attend really missed out. I love a fast paced, knowledgeable speaker!

- **Joetta King**, Coordinator - Gardeners on the Go



September 30, 2010
Tierra Verde Golf Club Tour
Arlington, TX



Lynn Kugler, Peggy Harris & Candace Kyler



Joan Kowalski
and Kathy Clark
at Redenta's

OCTOBER 2010

Article submitted by Joetta King for the October newsletter

Photo - 1989 GGC Membership Brunch at the home of Bettie Simmons



MARY RUTH BOX JONES

1923-2010

The Grapevine Garden Club has learned of the recent passing of Mary Ruth Box Jones, an honorary member of GGC since 2002. Joetta King was a friend of Mary Ruth's and she offers this reflection.

Mary Ruth Box Jones graduated from Grapevine public schools as valedictorian and from Baylor University with majors in both English and education. She taught school in various cities before eventually settling in Tyler in 1949 where she was active in many organizations including the Women's Symphony League, Woman's Forum, a Literary Club, and the Historical Society.

As many of us have realized, we sometimes start a new chapter of life due to intervening circumstances. When her mother's health became a serious issue, Mary Ruth gave up her well-established life in Tyler to return to Grapevine and help with her mother's care. Although Grapevine was a town that she had always loved and valued for its historical interest and its friendly residents, it was undoubtedly a challenging move.

Her parents were well known in the community. Both parents, D.E. and Ruth Box, were founding members of the Grapevine Garden Club and very influential in the community. In Judy Deacon Jacobs' book, *Grapevine's Most Unforgettable Characters* (published by the Grapevine Historical Society), Mary Ruth described a memorial event in the early 1930s when she was to ride dressed in a long pioneer-style dress in a parade in a covered wagon with her grandmother. The parade was part of a celebration for the completion of Northwest Highway, which came through Grapevine from Dallas, going on to Rhome, and connecting with highways to the west. Her father, a local banker, had worked hard for years to get a highway built through Grapevine.

Mary Ruth served the Grapevine community in many significant ways and was involved with the Women's Division of the Grapevine Chamber of Commerce, member and past president of the Bay View Club, and president of the Grapevine Historical Society when the depot was moved back to Main Street from Heritage Park.

Although Mary Ruth did not become an active member of the Garden Club until 1988, there is a photo in the club's scrapbook of her attending the club's annual flower show with her mother in 1978. When membership in the garden club was smaller, the annual luncheons were staged in the homes of members. Mary Ruth served as hostess to the Christmas luncheon in 1987 at her new home in south Grapevine. Before her health declined, she served as historian in 1990-91 and outreach chairperson from 1996-1998.

Mary Ruth was my neighbor, and I would occasionally see her inspecting the iris that she had transplanted from the family home on East Worth Street. She wore a straw hat she decorated herself. Following the dedication of a historical marker on Main Street ten years earlier, she had been wearing that same hat when a visitor thought she was someone important and famous because she was wearing it. In remembering the incident Mary Ruth said, "Sometimes I smile to myself that, because of that hat, someone long ago thought I was famous!"

Mary Ruth may not have been famous, but she made a difference! She was made an honorary member of the Grapevine Garden Club in 2002 in recognition of her service to the club. Honorable, reserved, intelligent and dignified...a genuine lady!

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PLANT IT PINK

SPRING BULBS FOR BORDERS AND NATURALIZING

Supporting **"Plant It Pink:"** Bulbs will be available at the
October GGC General Meeting.
\$7 per bag, with 7 to 15 bulbs per bag (depending on the variety)

SPECIES TULIPS

Excellent for rock gardens, bed borders; forcing and containers; many of these variable beauties suitable for Heirloom gardens; some naturalize when happy; 6–10 cm bulbs and mid-late spring unless otherwise noted; Winter zone hardiness 3–8.



Lady Jane – When closed, the exterior petals of this ‘candy striped tulip’ are rose red with a tiny white edge; the flower opens fully to show a bright white interior; 8”– 10”; mid-late spring; (6/8cm).

SCILLA

Family: Liliaceae

Pest resistant, starry flowers with bell-like blooms on spikes with strap-like leaves; colors range in blues, whites, pinks and violets; heights and bloom times also cover a wide range; one of the most shade tolerant bulbs; most are hardy in Winter zone hardiness 4–8; early-mid spring blooming; Heirloom from 1600s.



Bifolia ‘Rosea’ – soft pinkish flowers; blooms with early daffodils; great with thyme or dianthus; 3”–4”; very early; (5+cm).

DAFFODIL

Daffodils are the most cost effective, pest-free perennial plants available and make wonderful companions with other bulbs, perennials, annuals and flowering shrubs. They grow in almost all areas of the United States as long as there is a discernible winter. They are pest-free and when given ample sunlight, water and proper nutrition, will provide early spring color for many years. They are divided into 13 divisions according to their flower shape and heritage.

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PLANT IT PINK, cont.

Daffodils should be planted in full sun or at least half day (6 hours) of sunlight after the leaves are on the trees. The planting depth should be planted 3 times the height of the bulb (3"-8"). The American Daffodil Society defines DIVISION 5 - TRIANDRUS as: "Usually two or more pendant flowers to a stem; perianth segments reflexed". Fuchsia-like shaped blooms often with a fruity fragrance; 4-5 bulbs per sq. ft.; zones 4-9; bulbs are 12/14cm.



Katie Heath - a precious, beautifully formed, long-lasting, white and pink Triandrus - strong, sturdy and lovely! 10"-12;" mid spring.

HYACINTHUS ORIENTALIS

Family: Liliaceae

Nickname: Hyacinth

Many tubular, slightly reflexed florets cover the 8"-10" stems making one large flower head; their rigid, uniform structure lends them for use in geometric designs; available in a myriad of colors and each very fragrant; for bedding and forcing; plant where the natural, sweet fragrance, reminiscent of spring, can be enjoyed; pest resistant; 7"-11" tall; 5 per sq. ft.; Winter zone hardiness 4-8; 15/16cm unless otherwise noted; (We think this is the best size for bedding without the need for staking.)



Jan Bos – classified as red but in our garden has brilliant spikes of pinkish red bells; From 1910; (16/17cm).

GLADIOLUS COMMUNIS

SSP. BYZANTINUS

Family: Iridaceae

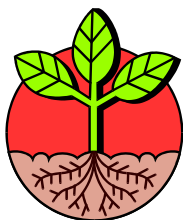
Nickname: Sword Lily, Corn Lily or Flags

Deep purplish red flowers, often with white stripes in the inner segments; many flowers all the way up the 20"-24" stem with long pointed foliage; smaller flowered and hardier than their summer blooming cousins, these also don't need staking and bloom in the late spring; these are species, and are variable, depending on site; Heirloom 1700; Winter zone hardiness 5-10; (6cm). (Note: This is not the clone found in the southwest called 'Flags.')



Gladiolus ssp. Byzantinus

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CIVIC COMMITTEE SEED MONEY PROJECT

In September, the Civic Committee approved two new Seed Money projects and awarded each \$200 with the approval of our Executive Board.

Our first award went to the Heritage Elementary School Outdoor Learning Center chaired by Master Gardener Jackie Peel. The Center is maintained on behalf of the students, faculty, staff and local community. Forty students in grades 2 through 5 under the tutelage of Tarrant County Master Gardeners grow food crops and ornamental plants. Each student keeps a journal, and they also benefit from guest speakers discussing garden related topics such as insects, attracting birds, compost and crafting with gourds. The money will be used to purchase a new wheelbarrow, chemicals to fight nut sedge, seeds and starter plants and craft materials.

Our second award went to "Operation iGrow" at Cross Timbers Middle School chaired by Cross Timbers teacher Terie Wied. This project began with a simple idea. Poverty exists in the Grapevine-Colleyville school district and because of that, many children are not getting proper nutrition. That was enough to get the group of 53 children, all in the Gifted and Talented Program, into action. The students began working on the project last summer and made it their year-long mission. The children worked as car-hops at Sonic for tips and organized a school-wide fashion show. They raised \$3,700 to purchase and build the greenhouse and plant a vegetable garden. They hosted cooking classes showing other children how fruits and vegetables can be appealing and even yummy. This is only a small part of the story. These children recently got a unanimous vote by judges at the international Future Problem Solvers Competition on June 13 in La Crosse, WI. The Grapevine Garden Club is happy to make this award to such a great group of kids. The money we award will be used to complete the new greenhouse.

Information on the Seed Money Program can be found on page 47 in the Garden Club Year-book. Please contact me if you know of any organizations, schools, etc., that might qualify.

- Paula Jones, Civic Coordinator

GGC SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT WORK

One recipient of a GGC scholarship has graduated and one is on his way.



Eric Morrell (Barb Morrell's son) received a GGC scholarship in April 2009. He graduated in May 2010 with Honors from the Honors College at Michigan State University. His degree is Landscape Architect and he has a minor in Spanish.



Dear Grapevine Garden Club,

Things are going great for me. My studies are going well. Some classes are harder than others, but that's college. Thank you again so much for your support! Have a great day!

Sincerely, Peter Reigelman

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CLASSES FOR PRESCHOOLERS



Children's Programs at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens

Thanks to Val Reed, Suzie Cate, Paula Wilbanks and Elayne Vick for helping out with our September program - "Lovely Ladybugs." We have two more exciting classes coming up yet this year -- Pumpkin Patch on October 19 and Fall Faces on November 16. If you are interested in assisting with the classes, and have a current background check through the city, please contact Suzi Agnew (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-1). The classes start at 4:00 P.M. and are 45 minutes long. Volunteers are asked to be at the Botanical Gardens around 3:30 P.M. Thank you!

Pumpkin Patch

Children will create a pumpkin vine to take home with them. Children will make rhythm instruments using pumpkin seeds. The children will listen to a related story book and sing songs.

Ages 3-6

Date: Tuesday, October 19



Fall Faces

Just in time for fall, children will walk the garden and collect fallen leaves to create faces and make leaf prints. The children will listen to a related story book and sign songs.

Ages 3-6

Date: Tuesday, November 16



HO-HO-HO AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

The 2010 Grapevine Garden Club Holiday Luncheon will be held on **Tuesday, December 7** at the Lancaster Theater located at 300 S. Main Street in downtown Grapevine. Tickets for the lunch are \$22.00 each and guests are welcome. (Please include guest name with payment.) Make your reservation by the November GGC general meeting, or make a check payable to the Grapevine Garden Club and send to Kathy Stone. (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-51) All reservations must be in by November 23. Payment cannot be accepted at the door.

Cash donations to G.R.A.C.E. will be accepted at the door.

This year our lunch is being catered by Tastefully Yours. The Jazz Choir from Grapevine High School will put us in the mood for the holidays. See you there!

Be advised that walnuts will be in the salad. If you have a food allergy that the caterers need to be aware of, please notify Kathy Stone when making your reservation.



WWW.GRAPEVINEGARDENCLUB.COM

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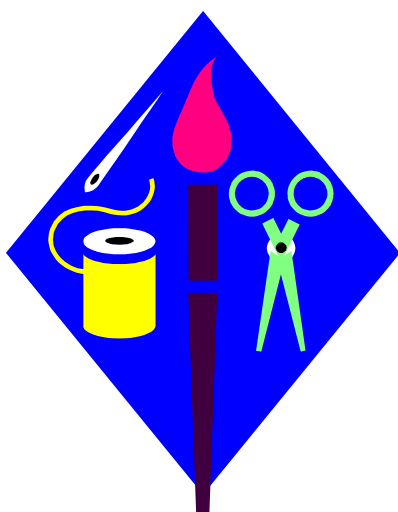
BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY

It is time for the annual Grapevine Butterfly Flutterby on **Saturday, October 16**. Many thanks to all who helped us to get ready and volunteered to help in the Garden Club booth.

We are hoping to have caterpillars or chrysalis to show the children. Seeing the real thing is much more exciting than pictures. I have already received one caterpillar from Linda Krimm and Lisa Grove, but it looks like he may be changing stages very soon. If there are any in your garden, or if you have seeds or plants to donate, please notify Barbara Oldani (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-38) as soon as possible. - **Barbara Oldani**



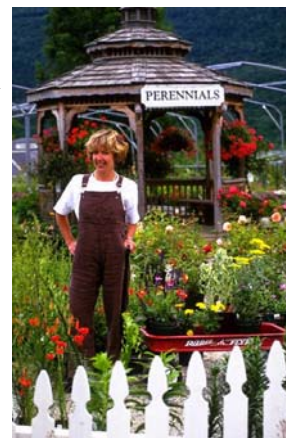
HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR



It's time for the annual GGC Crafty Corner Holiday Bazaar to be held before and after the November General Meeting. Do you have a crafting hobby? Do you bead, paint, bake, or sew? Would you like to sell items, or simply donate a crafted good (or goods)? GGC encourages members who would like to sell, or donate their hand crafted item(s) for the Holiday Bazaar to get crafting. It will be a perfect time to do a little gift shopping and get that special item before the holiday rush. If you would like to sell your items, a \$7 donation is requested to participate. If you would like to donate items, or sell items, please contact Karen Rice. (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-44) Money raised will go to the GGC Ways and Means/Other fund. - **Karen Rice**

PLANT SALE PREPARATION

The plant sale committee is ready to go and already planning fun in the dirt this month in preparation for our annual spring plant sale. We will be gathering at the Grapevine Botanical Garden on **Friday, Oct. 15** at 9:30 A.M. to dig up and propagate some wonderful plants. Let's meet at the gazebo and we will be directed to various parts of the garden for our digging assignments. You are going to enjoy the experience of working with old and new friends, learn about dividing plants and helping them grow and mature into healthy plants that will be a hit at the plant sale. Email or call Valerie Reed (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-43) and I will be delighted to see and work with you all. - **Val Reed**



WWW.GRAPEVINEGARDENCLUB.COM

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monarch-butterfly.com

FLYING COLORS

By Toni Moorehead, Master Gardener

October is here, and thankfully, cooler temps have finally arrived. Something else will be arriving in our gardens this month, too! October is the month when Monarch butterflies make their annual migration to Mexico, and our fair city of Grapevine is right on their flight path (part of what is called the Central Flyway). As these colorful flying beauties head southward, they will be stopping in our gardens to refuel on the sweet nectar provided by the blooms of many annuals and perennials.

I learned from the Monarch Butterfly Website that Monarch butterflies (described as The King of Butterflies) go through four stages during one life cycle (egg/larvae/pupa/adult), and through four generations in one year. The four generations are actually four different butterflies going through these four stages during one year until it is time to start over again with stage one and generation one.

In February and March, the final generation of hibernating Monarch butterflies comes out of hibernation to find a mate. They then migrate north and east in order to find a place to lay their eggs. This starts stage one and generation one of the new year for the Monarch butterfly.

In March and April the eggs are laid on milkweed plants. After about four days the eggs hatch into baby caterpillars (larvae). After about two weeks of munching on milkweed, the caterpillar will be fully grown and will attach itself to a stem or a leaf so it can start the process of metamorphosis, transforming into a chrysalis. After 10 days of the chrysalis phase the adult monarch butterfly will emerge from the pupa and fly away. This first generation Monarch only lives about two to six weeks, and it dies after laying eggs for generation number two.



monarch-butterfly.com

The second generation of Monarch butterflies is born in May and June, and then the third generation will be born in July and August. These Monarch butterflies will go through exactly the same four-stage life cycle as did the first generation, dying two to six weeks after it becomes a beautiful Monarch butterfly.

The fourth generation of Monarch butterflies is a little bit different than the first three generations. The fourth generation, born in September and October, goes through exactly the same process as the first, second, and third generations except for one part. The fourth generation Monarch does not die after two to six weeks. This is the generation that migrates to warmer climates like Mexico and California and will live for six to eight months until it is time to start the whole process over again.

(Continued)

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FLYING COLORS, **cont.**

For more information about the life cycle and migration of these amazing butterflies, go to <http://www.monarch-butterfly.com>



These Monarchs hit pay dirt when they found this Butterfly Bush (Buddleia)



Some other great plants for attracting Monarchs to your garden are Fall Aster (*Aster oblongifolius*) (foreground) and Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia leucantha*) (background)



Eupatorium coelestinum is also a Monarch magnet.

Mexican Butterfly Weed a/k/a Milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*) is a must-have larval and nectar source.



(continued)

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FLYING COLORS, **cont.**

Come celebrate the Monarch migration at the 13th annual **Butterfly Flutterby** held in downtown Grapevine on **October 16, 2010**. This family event includes a parade and releases of butterflies, as well as butterfly exhibits, gardening seminars and all sorts of interactive butterfly arts and crafts and entertainment. Contact Barbara Oldani (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-38) for more information.

Incidentally, in my feeble attempt at a play on words in titling this article *Flying Colors*, I came across some interesting information. Did you know that since the eighteenth century, ships of the navy have used flags (or banners called "colors") to communicate their status or well-being? After a victory at sea, a triumphant ship would return to its home port with a proud and full display of flying colors.

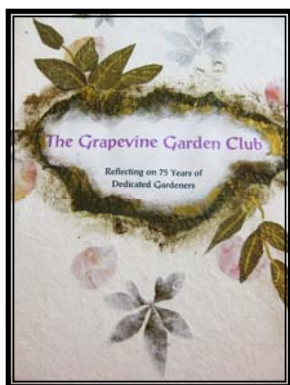
The term "flying colors" means to succeed at easily, to breeze through. I hope that all of your gardening endeavors this fall are a complete success and that you breeze through all of your projects with flying colors!

For general information on other butterflies, read *Butterflies of North America* by James P. Brock and Kenn Kaufmann, or visit the Dallas Lepidopterists' Society website: www.dallasbutterflies.com

Enjoy your gardens...and the butterflies.

For other interesting garden topics, visit Toni's blog at: <http://signaturegardens.blogspot.com>

LOOKING BACK, 6th installment



The annual Butterfly Flutterby festival happens here in Grapevine on Saturday, October 16, just in time for this newsletter reflection from Barbara Oldani who currently heads the GGC booth. This event is always fun for members, and there is no shortage of volunteers to help prepare butterfly materials to show and sell. Here's Barbara's Looking Back essay written in 2007 for the club's 75th Anniversary Book.

THE BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY FESTIVAL

by Barbara Oldani

The Butterfly Flutterby is a Grapevine festival which began in 1998 to celebrate the migration of the Monarch butterflies traveling through Texas to their winter home in Mexico. During that first year, children and pets in costume paraded from the Cotton Belt Train Depot to Liberty Park. There was food, music, a petting zoo, arts and crafts and two butterfly releases.

From the beginning, the members of the Grapevine Garden Club have been enthusiastic participants and many of the names from that first year will be familiar. Sandy Cavanaugh, Paula Jones, Sylvan Sigler, Marion Brekken, Edith Pewitt, Suzi Guckel and Dana Lawson braved blowing rain to man an educational table and apparently enjoyed it. They offered information on the Monarch life cycle and butterfly gardening and sold T-shirts from Monarch Watch, an organization based at the University of Kansas that tags the butterflies and studies their migration. Cora Lee Brannon had provided a gorgeous native flower arrangement for the table and the little lost butterflies that were too cold to fly were brought to the flowers which gave everyone an extra opportunity to admire and photograph them.

Every year the festival has always been celebrated as a wonderful success, but I especially enjoyed a story from the Butterfly Flutterby in 2000. Cora Lee Brannon had again provided a beautiful bouquet of native and wildflower cuttings and a friend of Edith Pewitt had provided a Monarch caterpillar, complete with milkweed. At the end of the day, Barbara Atkins delivered the bouquet back to Cora Lee. Several days later the caterpillar had disappeared causing some panic. It was found that the caterpillar was still there, but had progressed to the chrysalis stage and was hanging from a cherry laurel leaf. When Cora Lee had to leave town, the bouquet was returned to Barb for "butterfly-sitting duties." In the afternoon of November 9, a beautiful Monarch butterfly emerged and sat quietly on a lantana blossom in the bouquet. A bit of sunshine was coming in the window and occasionally he would open his wings to receive the warmth. His proud caretaker talked to "Buddy" at length about the cold, rainy weather and they discussed the long journey he had to make. Buddy rested all night on the lantana blossom. The next morning the bouquet and Buddy were carried to the backyard where he could absorb more heat from the sun and stretch his wings. At approximately noon, he began his long trek to Mexico, leaving a proud but worried foster-mother.

In the years since 1998, the Butterfly Flutterby has become much larger and has remained a yearly highlight for children, their families and apparently for the Garden Club members. Many in the club should receive unofficial awards for the number of times they have volunteered. We have graduated from a table to a booth and at times we have offered tote bags, books, butterfly identification wheels, seeds, plants, necklaces, pencils, magnets and butterfly garden stakes. Who knows how many gardens have grown because of the information given out by our club or how many butterflies have had a safer journey because of our efforts? Next October, you are welcome to join us and share in the fun!

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Harriet Perrello shares the floral beauty of her month-long European vacation.

MY SUMMER VACATION....

It took me a year to get to Scotland, and it was well worth it. I looked for a tour that would match up well with the Scotland tour, giving me a month in Europe. The best match was a trip I found called Scandinavia and its Fjords. I did not know what to expect in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, but I'm always ready to explore the unknown. And I fell completely in love with Norway, the most beautiful wonderland of scenic waterways, huge rocky mountains, and gigantic waterfalls tumbling down with glacier waters winding their way to meet their end in fjords. I guess it's the gardener in me, but I took every opportunity to snap pictures of plants, flowers, and trees that looked interesting. It is amazing how a beautiful plant can adapt and grow. I knew none of the names of most of the wildflowers that I captured with my camera. When I asked I was usually told they were weeds.

One day while on my own, I made a trip to the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland, Britain's second oldest botanical garden after Oxford, which was established in 1670 for medicinal herbs. The Edinburgh garden is now considered one of Europe's best botanical gardens. I spotted a plant with leaves five to six feet wide which I saw in New England at the Berkshire Botanical Garden and could not identify. Now I have it in Latin, *Gunnera Manicata*. Everything growing in the garden is lush and green, due to plenty of rain and cool temperatures. The garden has a greenhouse, which they call a glass house, dedicated to plants found in Arizona and New Mexico, which of course were not unfamiliar to me. It was odd seeing them there, however. Five hours in this garden just flew by.

All the landscaped flower beds I saw were gorgeous. Scenery was numbingly beautiful. I took 650 photos, all labeled, and if you have endurance for more, contact me. (2010-2011 Yearbook page A-40)



Waterfall in Norway



Monkey Puzzle Tree. I saw these throughout Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Scotland. No idea how it was named. Every Monkey Tree I saw was perfectly symmetrical with thick branches, and I heard it described as reptilian. It would not do for a Christmas tree because the scales on the branches and leaves had sharp edges and tips.



Gunnera Manicata at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland. The size of the leaves were 5 - 6 ft wide. You can see people standing in the background to get an idea of their size.



Giant lily pads at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland. Photographers like to take pictures of babies curled up sleeping in them.

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MY SUMMER VACATION, cont.

Wildflowers of Denmark



Wildflowers of Norway



Wildflowers of Scotland



Rose Bay Willow Herb



Ragwort



Common Heather



Bell Heather



Rushes



And not to be left out, the American southwest was represented in a glass house at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh!